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Proposed Initiative Enters Circulation

Termination of Minor's Pregnancy. Waiting Period and Parental Notification.
Initiative Constitutional Amendment.

SACRAMENTO, CA --- Secretary of State Kevin Shelley announced today that the proponents of a new initiative may begin collecting petition signatures for their measure.

The Attorney General's official title and summary is as follows:

TERMINATION OF MINOR'S PREGNANCY. WAITING PERIOD AND PARENTAL NOTIFICATION. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

- Amends California Constitution to bar abortion on unemancipated minor until 48 hours after physician notifies minor's parent/legal guardian, except in medical emergency or with parental waiver.
- Permits judicial waiver of notice based on clear and convincing evidence of minor's maturity or minor's best interests.
- Physician must report abortions performed on minors and State shall compile statistics.
- Authorizes monetary damages for violation.
- Minor must consent to abortion unless mentally incapable or in medical emergency.
- Permits judicial relief if minor's consent to abortion is coerced.

The summary of the estimate by the Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of the fiscal impact on state and local governments indicates that net costs of this measure to Medi-Cal and other programs are unknown, but are probably not significant in the context of the total expenditures for these programs.

The proponents, Paul E. Laubacher and Barbara R. Laubacher, must collect 598,105 signatures of registered voters, which is eight percent of the total votes cast for governor in the 2002 gubernatorial election. The 150-day deadline to circulate petitions is April 14, 2005. The initiative proponent can be reached at 916-381-5222.

For a copy of the complete text, title & summary, and circulation calendar, please contact the Secretary of State's Press Office at 916-653-6575.